


Chicago Headlines

For Immediate Release
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Key open space projects move forward

DuSable Park, Palmer Square, and Logan Square site to receive city assistance

The City Council today approved three measures designed to create and enhance community open space on the Near North Side and in the Logan Square neighborhood.

These proposals illustrate the City's commitment to creating open space to benefit of all our communities, said Mayor Daley.

DuSable Park, 401 N. Lake Shore Dr.

The proposal would authorize the city to use \$2 million in Open Space Impact fees to help develop the unimproved 3.2-acre property owned by the Chicago Park District. DuSable Park, located at the mouth of the Chicago River at Lake Shore Drive, is one of the last remaining parcels on the lakefront that has not been developed. The plans for the adjacent Chicago Spire project require the developer to share the park's \$13 million development costs and construct it for the City and Park District. The \$2 million in Open Space Impact fees will be applied toward completing the park design and construction of the seawall as part of the first phase of the project.

Open Space Impact fees are collected from developers of new residential developments. These fees have enabled the city to establish neighborhood parks in communities throughout Chicago.

Palmer Square, 3200 W. Palmer Blvd.

This plan would convey Palmer Square, a 7.7-acre City-owned segment of Palmer Boulevard, to the Chicago Park District who will make \$380,000 worth of improvements to Palmer Square that including new landscaping, seating areas, jogging path and creative play space based on a Velveteen Rabbit theme. Palmer Square is recognized as an historic landscape that was designed in 1870 by William LeBaron Jenney.

Public Plaza, 2542-60 N. Milwaukee Ave.

The City would purchase portions of three unimproved lots owned by the CTA for \$130,000 in order to create a public plaza in Logan Square. The 14,000-square-foot property would be purchased with Fullerton/Milwaukee TIF funds. The estimated project costs for the purchase and redevelopment of the site is \$1.1 million.